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8 August 1949

MEMORANDUM FOR ANPC

SUBJECT: Conversation Re Greek Operations Into Albania.

PARTICIPANTS: Ambassador Grady; Mr. Harbo, NSA; Mr. Jernegan, GTH;
Mr. Wisner, Mr. Office and [] , OPG.

1. A summary of current information on Greek operations into Albania, copy attached, was presented to the participants in the meeting for study before beginning the discussion. Mr. Wisner then stated that the information summarized in this paper proposed two questions, to which it was desired to obtain answers at the present meeting. These questions are as follows:

a. What is to be the attitude of the U. S. Government in general, and OPG in particular, toward these operations?

b. Is it timely to press the Greeks once again for a statement on North Epirus?

2. With reference to the second question, Ambassador Grady counseled against attempting to obtain further statements from the Greek Government on the question of North Epirus, and Mr. Jernegan pointed out that he had compiled a number of statements made within the past six months by the Greek Government on this question, which taken together more or less meet our requirements. It was therefore decided that we would wait a reasonable period after the announcement of the formation of the Albanian Committee for some welcoming statement with respect to the Committee by the Greek Government (a telegram from Athens today refers to a proposed Greek communique, text of which was transmitted to us by pouch on 29 July 1949). If such a statement is not forthcoming from the Greek Government within a reasonable time, our Embassy, Athens, will press for such a statement. After it is made we will arrange for a response by the Albanian Committee which will include references to the previous statements of the Greek Government on the question of North Epirus. It is to be noted that this entire matter will have come to the attention of Mr. PIPINELLIS, Under-Secretary in the Greek Foreign Office, who is one of the individuals reportedly cognizant of the operations into Albania which are sponsored by the Greek General Staff.

3. With respect to the first question, it was unanimously agreed that the U. S. Government is not in any way cognizant of the reported Greek operations into Albania. So far as OPG is concerned, however, we will wait until the exchange described in the preceding paragraph has taken place, at which time, using the time channel by which information of the

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Greek operations came to us, we will state that while we are of course interested in the intelligence to be gained from the Greek operations, we assume that the propaganda and resistance aspects of the Greek operations will be coordinated with the Albanian National Committee.

4. It was additionally decided that with respect to requests for assistance in their operations from the Greeks, no encouragement of assistance will be given to them as regards the "resistance" (i.e. propaganda and sabotage) aspects of their alleged operations, and that any encouragement or assistance which may be provided will be done on a clandestine basis for "intelligence" purposes only.

[Chief, Foreign Branch B, Area I]

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